



Washington, D.C. 20520

Case Control No. 8203704

Mr. Steven Garfinkel, Director
Information Security Oversight Office
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20405

MAR 23 1983

Dear Mr. Garfinkel:

I refer to your request for classification review of GAO Report GGD-75-80, entitled "Problems in Slowing the Flow of Cocaine and Heroin From and Through South America".

It is evident that there was confusion in the original classification of this document. It is marked for exemption from the applicable GDS schedule (under EO 11652), and indicates Exemption Category (2) as the basis. That category related, in relevant part, to information disclosing intelligence sources or methods. Section 5 (B) of EO 11652 made it clear that exemption from the GDS contemplated, and was only required for, a longer period of classification than was provided under GDS. Yet this document is also marked with a declassification date (May 15, 1980) earlier than the six years set by the GDS.

In these circumstances it appears most useful, and appropriate under Section 1.4 (a) of EO 12356, to have the document carefully reviewed to determine whether it contains information now subject to classification. The exemption category suggests that such information would probably be in the intelligence area. In view of the responsibility for review of information in that area assigned to the Director of Central Intelligence by Section 3.4 (e) of EO 12356, the Department defers to CIA for the review. We are aware that they have also been asked to review it.

The Department is the "originating agency" of the document only in the sense of having taken the original classifying action, apparently at GAO's request, and having contributed some of the information for the GAO study. If it is determined that action is needed to extend or correct the original classification, we would be prepared to assist as appropriate under EO 12356.

Sincerely,

John R. Burke
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Classification/Declassification
Center
Bureau of Administration